1 Honorable Benjamin H. Settle 2 3 4 5 6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 7 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT TACOMA 8 9 GWEN STINSON, 10 NO. 3:12-cv-05036-BHS Plaintiff(s), 11 ٧. CAVALRY PORTFOLIO SERVICES, LLC'S ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES CAVALRY PORTFOLIO SERVICES, LLC, a TO PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT Delaware Limited Liability Company, and 13 NANCY A. SMITH & ASSOCIATES, and Oregon Debt Collection Law Firm, and 14 SMITH & GREAVES, LLP, an Oregon Debt JURY DEMAND Collection Law Firm; and NANCY A. SMITH, 15 a Washington Licensed Debt Collection Attorney, and JAMES A. UNDERWOOD, a 16 Washington Licensed Debt Collection Attorney, and ROBERT D. GREAVES, a 17 Washington Licensed Debt Collection Attorney, 18 Defendant(s). 19 Defendant CAVALRY PORTFOLIO SERVICES, LLC (hereinafter "Cavalry" or "CPS"), by 20 and through its undersigned attorneys, answers Plaintiff's Complaint for Injunctive Relief for 21 Violations of the Washington Consumer Protection Act, the Washington Collection Agency Act, 22 and the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Inter Alia dated January 2, 2012 as follows: 23 24 25 CAVALRY PORTFOLIO SERVICES, LLC'S ANSWER PREG O'DONNELL & GILLETT PLLC

AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES TO PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT - 1 10486-0006 5038914.doc

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# A. NON-WAIVER OF RIGHT TO ARBITRATION

Defendant Cavalry files this *Answer and Affirmative Defenses* to comply with Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. By doing so, Cavalry does not intend to waive or otherwise impair its right to enforce the arbitration agreement which binds Plaintiff with respect to the debt obligation described in her Complaint.

# B. <u>ADMISSIONS AND DENIALS</u>

# I. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

- 1.1 Section I of the Complaint does not comply with the pleading requirements of Fed.R.Civ.Proc. 8, particularly with subsection (d)(1), and therefore should be stricken.
- 1.2 To the extent a further response is necessary, Defendant CPS denies the allegations in Section I except to admit only the following specific allegations: pursuant to a valid assignment from the debt's owner, CPS filed a lawsuit against Plaintiff Gwen Stinson ("Plaintiff" or "STINSON") in the District Court of the State of Washington, Cowlitz County, Cause No. 11C0869 ("Collection Lawsuit"), to collect on Plaintiff's unpaid and defaulted credit card account; documents were placed in the Collection Lawsuit file, including Plaintiff's Credit Card Agreement; Plaintiff was represented by an attorney in the Collection Lawsuit; other pleadings were filed in the Collection Lawsuit and there was correspondence among the parties' attorneys; CPS settled its dispute with Plaintiff in the Collection Lawsuit, in connection with which it dismissed the action against Plaintiff and reimbursed legal costs to her; and Plaintiff's Complaint in this lawsuit includes a request for injunctive relief, which should be denied by the Court.

# **II. PARTIES**

- 2.1 Answering paragraph 2.1, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 2.2 Answering paragraph 2.2, Cavalry admits that Plaintiff Gwen Stinson obtained a credit card from Citibank. Cavalry is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief

CAVALRY PORTFOLIO SERVICES, LLC'S ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES TO PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT - 2 10486-0006 5038914.doc PREG O'DONNELL & GILLETT PLLC

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24 25 as to the truth or falsity of the remaining allegations in paragraph 2.2 and, therefore, denies the allegations contained therein.

- 2.3 Answering paragraph 2.3, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 2.4 Answering paragraph 2.4, Cavalry denies the allegations except to admit it is a Delaware limited liability company and that it sometimes purchases charged off credit card accounts.
- 2.5 Answering paragraph 2.5, Cavalry denies the allegations except to admit it sometimes attempts to collect debts, but not third party debts.
- 2.6 Answering paragraph 2.6, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry admits its Washington UBI number is 602235105 and that it sometimes acts as a "debt collector" within the meaning of the FDCPA, but denies the remaining allegations for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 2.7 Answering paragraph 2.7, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations except to admit only it sometimes acts as a "debt collector" and/or "collection agency" within the meaning of the FDCPA, but Cavalry denies sufficient knowledge and information as to whether it so acted with respect to the Plaintiff, and therefore denies same.
- 2.8 Answering paragraph 2.8, Cavalry denies the allegations for lack of sufficient knowledge and information except to admit only that NANCY A. SMITH & ASSOCIATES, SMITH & GREAVES, and JAMES A. UNDERWOOD (collectively "Attorney Defendants") held themselves out to Cavalry as attorneys licensed to practice law in Washington.

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24 25 2.9 Answering paragraph 2.9, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.

- 2.10 Answering paragraph 2.10, Cavalry denies the allegations for lack of sufficient knowledge and information except to admit only that the Attorney Defendants held themselves out to Cavalry as attorneys licensed to practice law in Washington and they represented Cavalry in the Collection Lawsuit.
- 2.11 Answering paragraph 2.11, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 2.12 Answering paragraph 2.12, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information except to admit only that Cavalry attempted in good faith to collect a lawful debt owed by the Plaintiff.

# **III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 3.1 Responding to paragraph 3.1, Cavalry admits jurisdiction and venue but otherwise denies the allegations contained therein.
- 3.2 Answering paragraph 3.2, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.

#### **IV. FACTS**

4.1 Answering paragraph 4.1, Cavalry admits that Plaintiff applied for and received a credit card from Citibank, and she entered into a Card Agreement with Citibank related to her use of the credit card. Cavalry is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as

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to the truth or falsity of the remaining allegations and, therefore, denies generally and specifically, each and every allegation contained therein.

- 4.2 Answering paragraph 4.2, Cavalry admits the same.
- 4.3 Answering paragraph 4.3, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 4.4 Answering paragraph 4.4, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 4.5 Answering paragraph 4.5, Cavalry admits the same, except to deny the implications of the use of the contentious word "nevertheless".
- 4.6 Answering paragraph 4.6, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
  - 4.7 Answering paragraph 4.7, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
  - 4.8 Answering paragraph 4.8, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 4.9 Answering paragraph 4.9, Cavalry admits that it filed Plaintiff's Card Agreement as an exhibit to the Complaint in the Collection Lawsuit. Cavalry denies the remaining allegations in paragraph 4.9, including the implications from the use of the contentious phrase "in fact".
- 4.10 Answering paragraph 4.10, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry admits it did not file with the Complaint in the Collection Lawsuit an affidavit or declaration along with Plaintiff's Credit Card Agreement, but Cavalry denies it was required to do so and further denies the remaining allegations contained therein.
- 4.11 Answering paragraph 4.11, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein except to admit only that a copy of Plaintiff's Credit Card Agreement was properly made part of the Collection Lawsuit court file.

- 4.12 Answering paragraph 4.12, Cavalry denies the allegations therein except to admit only that it did not file a "bill of sale", affidavit, or declaration with the Collection Lawsuit Complaint.
  - 4.13 Answering paragraph 4.13, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 4.14 Answering paragraph 4.14, Cavalry admits the Collection Lawsuit Complaint did not explicitly state the date of Plaintiff's default on her credit card obligations but denies the implications of the contentious word "even".
  - 4.15 Answering paragraph 4.15, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- Answering paragraph 4.16, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal 4.16 conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 4.17 Answering paragraph 4.17, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein, except to admit only that it filed the Collection Lawsuit and Plaintiff was represented by an attorney. Cavalry specifically denies the Collection Lawsuit was frivolous and the implications of the contentious word "nevertheless".
- Answering paragraph 4.18, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 4.19 Answering paragraph 4.19, Cavalry admits the Complaint in the Collection Lawsuit did not contain an itemized calculation of Plaintiff's debt, but otherwise denies the allegations therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 4.20 Answering paragraph 4.20, Cavalry admits the Complaint in the Collection Lawsuit did not contain an itemized calculation of Plaintiff's debt or a statement of the date of Plaintiff's last payment on her debt obligation, but otherwise denies the allegations therein including the implications of the contentious words "furthermore" and "most surely".
  - 4.21 Answering paragraph 4.21, Cavalry admits the allegations therein.

- 4.22 Answering paragraph 4.22, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 4.23 Answering paragraph 4.23, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry admits it dismissed the Collection Lawsuit against Plaintiff but denies there was no evidence of Plaintiff's indebtedness and otherwise denies the allegations therein.
- 4.24 Answering paragraph 4.24, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations, and asserts it settled its dispute with Plaintiff in the Collection Lawsuit, in connection with which it reimbursed legal costs to Plaintiff.
- 4.25 Answering paragraph 4.25, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein, including specifically the contentions the Collection Lawsuit was "frivolous, baseless, [and] time-barred".
- 4.26 Answering paragraph 4.26, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations, and specifically asserts it settled its dispute with Plaintiff in the Collection Lawsuit, in connection with which it reimbursed legal costs to Plaintiff.
- 4.27 Answering paragraph 4.27, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein except to admit only it filed the Collection Lawsuit.
  - 4.28 Answering paragraph 4.28, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.

4.29 Answering paragraph 4.29, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.

# V. FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT VIOLATION (Application of the Statute)

- 5.1 Answering paragraph 5.1, Cavalry incorporates by reference its answers to paragraphs 1.1-4.29 above as though fully set forth herein.
- 5.2 Answering paragraph 5.2, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference. Cavalry otherwise denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 5.3 Answering paragraph 5.3, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference. Cavalry otherwise denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 5.4 Answering paragraph 5.4, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference. Cavalry otherwise denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 5.5 Answering paragraph 5.5, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are

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incorporated by this reference. Cavalry admits only it sometimes acts as a "debt collector" and/or "collection agency" within the meaning of the FDCPA, but Cavalry denies sufficient knowledge and information as to whether it so acted with respect to the Plaintiff, and therefore denies same.

- 5.6 Answering paragraph 5.6, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference. Cavalry otherwise denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 5.7 Answering paragraph 5.7, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference. Cavalry otherwise denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 5.8 Answering paragraph 5.8, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference. Cavalry admits only it sometimes acts as a "debt collector" and/or "collection agency" within the meaning of the FDCPA, but Cavalry denies sufficient knowledge and information as to whether it so acted with respect to the Plaintiff, and therefore denies same.

#### VI. FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Fair Debt Collection Practices Act Violation (False, Deceptive or Misleading Representations)

6.1 Answering paragraph 6.1, Cavalry incorporates by reference its answers to paragraphs 1.1-5.8 above as though fully set forth herein.

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- 6.2 Answering paragraph 6.2, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference. Cavalry otherwise denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 6.3 Answering paragraph 6.3, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference. Cavalry otherwise denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 6.4 Answering paragraph 6.4, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference. Cavalry otherwise denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 6.5 Answering paragraph 6.5, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference. Cavalry otherwise denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 6.6 Answering paragraph 6.6, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference. Cavalry otherwise denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.

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- 6.7 Answering paragraph 6.7, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry admits filing the Collection Lawsuit but otherwise denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 6.8 Answering paragraph 6.8, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein, except Cavalry admits filing the Collection Lawsuit.
  - 6.9 Answering paragraph 6.9, Cavalry admits the same.
  - 6.10 Answering paragraph 6.10, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 6.11 Answering paragraph 6.11, Cavalry admits it attached a copy of Plaintiff's Credit Card Agreement to the Complaint in the Collection Lawsuit, but Cavalry otherwise denies the allegations contained therein.
- 6.12 Answering paragraph 6.12, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein, except Cavalry admits filing the Collection Lawsuit.
- 6.13 Answering paragraph 6.13, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein, except Cavalry admits filing the Collection Lawsuit.
  - 6.14 Answering paragraph 6.14, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 6.15 Answering paragraph 6.15, Cavalry admits it settled its dispute with Plaintiff in the Collection Lawsuit and, in connection with that settlement, it dismissed the Collection Lawsuit against the Plaintiff. Cavalry denies the remaining allegations contained therein.
- 6.16 Answering paragraph 6.16, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry admits it settled its dispute with Plaintiff in the Collection Lawsuit, in connection with which it dismissed that action and reimbursed legal costs to Plaintiff, but denies the remaining allegations therein.
  - 6.17 Answering paragraph 6.17, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.

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- 7.10 Answering paragraph 7.10, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 7.11 Answering paragraph 7.11, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
  - 7.12 Answering paragraph 7.12, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 7.13 Answering paragraph 7.13, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.

# VIII. THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION (State Collection Agency Act Violation)

- 8.1 Answering paragraph 8.1, Cavalry incorporates by reference its answers to paragraphs 1.1-7.13 above as though fully set forth herein.
- 8.2 Answering paragraph 8.2, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference.
- 8.3 Answering paragraph 8.3, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference.
- 8.4 Answering paragraph 8.4, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference.

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- 8.5 Answering paragraph 8.5, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference.
- 8.6 Answering paragraph 8.6, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference.
- 8.7 Answering paragraph 8.7, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference.
  - 8.8 Answering paragraph 8.8, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
  - 8.9 Answering paragraph 8.9, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
  - 8.10 Answering paragraph 8.10, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 8.11 Answering paragraph 8.11, Cavalry admits the Complaint in the Collection Lawsuit did not contain an itemized calculation of Plaintiff's debt, but otherwise denies the allegations therein.
- 8.12 Answering paragraph 8.12, Cavalry admits the Collection Lawsuit Complaint did not explicitly state the date of Plaintiff's default on her credit card obligations, but it denies the remaining allegations contained therein.
- 8.13 Answering paragraph 8.13, Cavalry admits the Collection Lawsuit Complaint did not allege a date of default on Plaintiff's credit card obligation, but it denies the remaining allegations contained therein.
  - 8.14 Answering paragraph 8.14, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.

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- 8.15 Answering paragraph 8.15, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 8.16 Answering paragraph 8.16, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 8.17 Answering paragraph 8.17, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.

# IX. FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION (Per Se Consumer Protection Act Violation)

- 9.1 Answering paragraph 9.1, Cavalry incorporates by reference its answers to paragraphs 1.1-8.17 above as though fully set forth herein.
- 9.2 Answering paragraph 9.2, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference.
- 9.3 Answering paragraph 9.3, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 9.4 Answering paragraph 9.4, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 9.5 Answering paragraph 9.5, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 9.6 Answering paragraph 9.6, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.

- 9.7 Answering paragraph 9.7, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein for lack of sufficient knowledge and information.
- 9.8 Answering paragraph 9.8, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 9.9 Answering paragraph 9.9, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 9.10 Answering paragraph 9.10, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
  - Answering paragraph 9.11, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein. 9.11
- 9.12 Answering paragraph 9.12, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.

### Χ. FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION (Consumer Protection Act Violation - In the Alternative)

- 10.1 Answering paragraph 10.1, Cavalry incorporates by reference its answers to paragraphs 1.1-9.12 above as though fully set forth herein
- 10.2 Answering paragraph 10.2, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited case speaks for itself, but denies Plaintiff's interpretation of the case.

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10.3 Answering paragraph 10.3, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited statute sections speak for themselves and are incorporated by this reference. Cavalry denies the remainder of the allegations therein.

- 10.4 Answering paragraph 10.4, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 10.5 Answering paragraph 10.5, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 10.6 Answering paragraph 10.6, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry asserts the text of the cited case speaks for itself, but denies Plaintiff's interpretation of the case.
- Answering paragraph 10.7, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 10.8 Answering paragraph 10.8, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
  - 10.9 Answering paragraph 10.9, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 10.10 Answering paragraph 10.10, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
  - 10.11 Answering paragraph 10.11, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.

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10.12 Answering paragraph 10.12, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.

- 10.13 Answering paragraph 10.13, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
  - 10.14 Answering paragraph 10.14, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.
- 10.15 Answering paragraph 10.15, Cavalry states that these are arguments and legal conclusions which are not subject to denial or admission. To the extent a further response is required, Cavalry denies the allegations contained therein.

### XI. OTHER DENIALS

Defendant Cavalry denies all other allegations in the Plaintiff's Complaint not specifically addressed elsewhere in the Answer.

# C. AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

#### XII. FAILURE TO STATE A CLAIM

The Complaint herein, and each cause of action thereof, fails to set forth facts sufficient to state a claim upon which relief may be granted against Cavalry and further fails to state facts sufficient to entitle Plaintiff to the relief sought, or to any other relief whatsoever from Cavalry.

# XIII. ARBITRATION

The terms and conditions applicable to Plaintiff's account and debt at issue provide for arbitration of claims related to the account at the option of either party. Cavalry is a third party beneficiary of Plaintiff's agreement to arbitrate all disputes related to the debt at issue.

Defendant Cavalry hereby demands arbitration in accordance with the provisions of that agreement. The Court should dismiss or stay this action pending completion of arbitration.

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#### XIV. RIGHT TO SET-OFF

Cavalry may be entitled to a set-off of any potential damages.

#### XV. SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE

Plaintiff's settlement with Defendant Cavalry in the Collection Lawsuit effected a release of all claims against Defendant Cavalry which she asserted in her Complaint.

#### XVI. ACCORD AND SATISFACTION

Plaintiff's settlement with Defendant Cavalry in the Collection Lawsuit effected an accord and satisfaction of all claims she asserted in her Complaint.

#### XVII. ERROR

Any violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("FDCPA") by Cavalry, which Cavalry denies, was not intentional and resulted from bona fide error notwithstanding the maintenance of procedures reasonably adapted to avoid any such error.

# XVIII. LACHES

The Complaint, and particularly Plaintiff's claim for injunctive relief therein, is barred by laches.

# XIX. MOOTNESS

The Complaint, and particularly Plaintiff's claim for relief therein, is barred by mootness.

#### XX. INDEMNIFICATION AND/OR ALLOCATION OF FAULT

Any damages allegedly suffered by Plaintiff were caused, at least in part, or contributed to by conduct and fault of persons over whom Cavalry had neither control nor responsibility, including the Plaintiff. Cavalry is therefore entitled indemnity and/or contribution from all such atfault persons under RCW Chap. 4.22.

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# XXI. CONTRIBUTORY / COMPARATIVE FAULT

Any damages sustained by Plaintiff were caused, at least in part, or contributed to, by the actions and fault of Plaintiff herself and resulted from Plaintiff's own negligence and, therefore, the doctrine of comparative negligence should be applied.

#### XXII. ESTOPPEL

Any damages that Plaintiff may have suffered, which Cavalry denies, were the direct and proximate result of the conduct of Plaintiff. Therefore, Plaintiff is estopped and barred from recovery of any damages.

#### XXIII. STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

Some or all of the claims for relief in the Complaint are barred or reduced by the applicable statutes of limitation.

# XXIV. FAILURE TO MITIGATE

Plaintiff has failed to mitigate her damages.

# D. ADDITIONAL DEFENSES AND CLAIMS

Cavalry does not waive, but rather it expressly reserves, any and all other defenses, affirmative defenses, claims, counterclaims, cross claims, and third party claims it may have based on the evidence known at the time of trial. Cavalry reserves the right to assert such additional defenses and claims as such time and to such extent as warranted by discovery and the factual development of this case.

# E. REQUEST FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Without waiving its right to compel arbitration of the dispute between the parties as provided by the written agreement between the parties, if the Court denies Cavalry's demand for arbitration then Cavalry requests a trial by jury pursuant to U.S. Const. Amend. 7, Fed.R.Civ.Proc. 38.

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# F. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, having fully answered Plaintiff's Complaint, Defendant Cavalry Portfolio Services, LLC prays for the following relief:

- 1) That the Court dismiss or stay this matter and order the Plaintiff to arbitrate all of her disputes.
- 2) That Plaintiff takes nothing by virtue of the Complaint herein and that this action be dismissed in its entirety.
- 3) That the Court award Cavalry judgment against Plaintiff for Cavalry's litigation costs and expenses incurred herein including, without limitation, the following items: court costs, statutory attorneys' fees, reasonable attorneys' fees, and prejudgment interest.
- 4) That the Court award Cavalry such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

DATED this 9th day of April, 2012.

PREG O'DONNELL & GILLETT PLLC

By s/William E. Fitzharris, Jr.
William E. Fitzharris, Jr.
WSBA #7122

Attorneys for Defendant Cavalry Portfolio Services, LLC

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on April 9, 2010, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to the attorneys of record listed below:

# For Plaintiff

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Robert D. Mitchell bobmitchellaw @yahoo.com

# For Defs. Nancy A. Smith & Associates; Smith & Greaves LLP; James A. Underwood; Nancy A. Smith; and Robert D. Greaves

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> CAVALRY PORTFOLIO SERVICES, LLC'S ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES TO PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT - 22 10486-0006 5038914.doc

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